Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the Application:

Listing of claims:

1 -25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A ~~QSIG communications~~ method comprising:

~~providing a data network coupled with an originating network access device, a~~ ~~terminating network access device and a control component, the data network being configured~~ ~~to communicate a plurality of packets;~~

~~formulating~~ receiving, via a first network access device, a communication comprising a content portion and a signaling portion in accordance with ~~the~~ a QSIG access protocol;

encapsulating the content portion and the signaling portion of the communication, ~~using~~ ~~the originating~~ via the first network access device, ~~providing~~ to provide a plurality of respective content packets and signaling packets;

~~tunneling~~ transmitting the signaling packets from the first network access device to ~~the~~ a control component ~~using the~~ via a data network;

establishing, via the control component, a connection within the data network ~~intermediate the originating~~ between the first network access device and ~~the terminating~~ a second network access device ~~using the control component after the tunneling~~ in response to receiving the signaling packets; and

communicating the content packets from the ~~originating~~ first network access device to the ~~terminating~~ second network access device ~~using the data network after the establishing~~ over the established connection.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 wherein the establishing comprises configuring ~~an originating~~ the first network access device and ~~a terminating~~ the second network access device using the control component to establish the connection ~~within~~ via the data network.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 further comprising mapping the signaling portion from a QSIG access protocol to another signaling protocol, and communicating the signaling portion to the ~~terminating network~~ second access device after the mapping.

29. (New) A method comprising:

receiving a communication comprising a QSIG content portion and a QSIG signaling portion;

encapsulating the QSIG content portion and the QSIG signaling portion of the communication, by a first network access device, to provide a plurality of respective content packets and signaling packets;

sending the signaling packets from the first network access device to a control component through a first D channel via a data network;

establishing, via a second D channel from the control component to a second network

access device, a B channel connection within the data network between the first network access

device and the second network access device; and

communicating the content packets from the first network access device to the second

network access device over the established B channel connection.

30. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the first and second D channels are implemented as

virtual circuits.

31. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the B channel is implemented as a virtual circuit.

32. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the received communication is transmitted from a

first PBX switch.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the second network access device transmits the

content packets to a second PBX switch.

34. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the QSIG content portion and a QSIG signaling

portion are continuous signals.

35. (New) A method comprising:

receiving a signal packet including QSIG signaling information; and

establishing a bearer channel connection between a first network access device and a

second network access device in response to receiving the signal packet.

36. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein the received signal packet is transmitted from a first

network device to a control component.

37. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein the control component establishes the bearer channel

connection between the first network access device and the second network access device.

38. (New) The method of claim 35 further comprising:

transmitting content packets between the first network access device and the second

network access device.

39. (New) The method of claim 35 further comprising:

mapping the received QSIG signaling information to another protocol prior to

establishing the bearer channel.

40. (New) A method performed by a first network access device, the method comprising:

receiving a QSIG communication including a content portion and a signaling portion;

encapsulating the content portion and the signaling portion of the communication to

provide a plurality of respective content packets and signaling packets; and

transmitting the signaling packets to a control component for use in establishing a

connection between the first network access device and a second network access device.

41. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the network access device receives the QSIG

communication from a PBX switch.

42. (New) The method of claim 40 further comprising:

establishing a bearer channel connection between the first network access device and the

second network access device.

43. (New) The method of claim 40 further comprising:

transmitting the content packets from the first network access device to the second

network access device.

44. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the second network access device is a non-QSIG

device.

45. (New) A system comprising:

a network access device configured to:

receive a QSIG signal that contains a signal portion and a content portion;

encapsulate the received signal portion into signal packets and the received

content portion into content packets; and

transmit the signal packets to establish a communication channel to a second

network access device.

46. (New) The system of claim 45 wherein when transmitting the signal packets, the network

access device is configured to:

transmit the signal packets to a control component via a data network.

47. (New) The system of claim 46 wherein the communication channel is established through the

data network.

48. (New) The system of claim 45 wherein the network access device is further configured to:

transmit the content packets to the second network access device.

49. (New) The system of claim 45 wherein the received signal portion and the received content

portion are continuous signals.

50. (New) The system of claim 45 wherein the network access device receives the QSIG signal

from a PBX switch.

51. (New) A system comprising:

a control component configured to:

receive a signal packet that includes QSIG information; and

establish a bearer communication channel between a first network access device

and a second network access device using the received signal packet.

52. (New) The system of claim 51 wherein the control component receives the signal packet

from the first network access device.

53. (New) The system of claim 52 wherein the control component is further configured to:

map the received signal packet to another protocol for transmission to the second network

access device.

54. (New) The system of claim 51 wherein the control component is further configured to:

return the bearer channel to an idle state after transmission of content packets from the

first network access device to the second network access device.